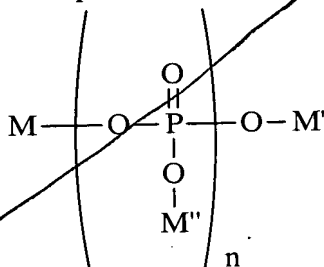


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 *Sub 7*
1. A method of treating dental erosion comprising orally administering to a mammal a beverage composition having a pH of less than about 5;

wherein the beverage composition comprises a compound having the structure:



wherein n is an integer averaging from about 7 to about 100 and M, M', and M'' are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of sodium and potassium.

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2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the beverage composition has a pH from about 2 to about 4.5.
 3. A method according to Claim 2 wherein the beverage composition further comprises a sweetener.
 4. A method according to Claim 3 wherein M, M', and M'' are each sodium.
 5. A method according to Claim 4 wherein n is an integer averaging from about 10 to about 30.
 6. A method according to Claim 5 wherein the beverage composition is substantially free of one or more components selected from the group consisting of calcium and fluoride.
 7. A method according to Claim 6 wherein n is an integer averaging from about 13 to about 25.
 8. A method according to Claim 7 wherein the beverage composition has a pH from about 2.7 to about 3.5.
 9. A method according to Claim 8 wherein the beverage composition comprises from about 0.1% to about 20% of the sweetener, by weight of the composition.
 10. A method according to Claim 9 wherein n is an integer averaging from about 19 to about 25.
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- 25
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11. A kit comprising:

- (a) a beverage composition according to Claim 1; and
(b) information that use of the beverage composition provides treatment against dental erosion.

12. A kit according to Claim 11 wherein the beverage composition has a pH from about 2 to about 4.5.

10 13. A kit according to Claim 12 wherein the beverage composition further comprises a sweetener.

14. A kit according to Claim 13 wherein M, M', and M'' are each sodium.

15. A kit according to Claim 14 wherein n is an integer averaging from about 10 to about 30.

16. A kit according to Claim 15 wherein the beverage composition is substantially free of one or more components selected from the group consisting of calcium and fluoride.

17. A kit according to Claim 16 wherein n is an integer averaging from about 13 to about 25.

18. A kit according to Claim 17 wherein the beverage composition has a pH from about 2.7 to about 3.5.

19. A kit according to Claim 18 wherein the beverage composition comprises from about 0.1% to about 20% of the sweetener, by weight of the composition.

20. A kit according to Claim 19 wherein n is an integer averaging about 19 to about 25.

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